REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed the Office Action dated May 10, 2002. Claim 22 has been amended. Reconsideration and favorable action is respectfully requested.

Regarding Claims 22-34, rejected under rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,978,773, *Hudetz et al.* (*Hudetz*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,640,193, Wellner (*Wellner*), this rejection is respectfully traversed as follows.

Regarding amended Claim 22, the single independent claim of Applicant's present application, the Examiner is correct that *Hudetz* does not explicitly disclose the last three steps of Claim 22, the inputting, detecting and connecting steps. In the *Office Action*, the *Wellner* reference is presented as disclosing these three steps which are not taught by *Hudetz*. However, Applicant respectfully submits that the *Wellner* reference does not in fact disclose or otherwise teach all that is missing from *Hudetz* for the following reasons. Further, the added translation step (which corresponds to the converting step of Claim 33) is not suggested or disclosed in *Wellner* or *Hudetz*.

Applicants respectfully points out that the use of standard scanner pen ID codes in *Wellner* for distinguishing pens of several users is only a single functionality, even if each code uniquely identifies a particular user. Thus, the inputting step of Applicant's Claim 22, which includes the recitation "an existing first functionality associated with the operation of the user computer *which is not the same functionality as the step of inputting the decoded information,*" (i.e., the second functionality), cannot read on the reference structure or process, which only involves a single functionality. Applicant's Claim 22 further requires that the defined "port of the user computer [be] operable to accommodate for both the first and second functionality during operation thereof." This requirement is also not met by *Wellner*, which is only capable of the single functionality of inputting a printed ID with a scanner pen regardless of whether the user interface of *Wellner* can accommodate one or several scanner pens. Further, there is some type of translation or converting step required to accommodate both functionalities.
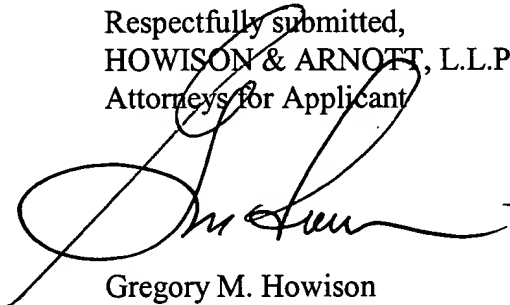
Accordingly, since *Wellner* lacks any disclosure of first and second functionalities and the translation step, which are not the same as respects the capability of the user computer to accommodate both such functionalities, *Wellner* is not capable of supplying the disclosures missing from the *Hudetz* reference. Therefore, independent Claim 22 is neither anticipated nor rendered obvious by either *Hudetz* or *Wellner*, taken alone or in combination. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of this rejection.

With regard to dependent Claims 22-34, Applicant respectfully submits that since these dependent claims contain all of the limitations of the base Claim 1, because these dependent claims depend ultimately or directly upon base Claim 1, the dependent Claims 22-34 are likewise patentably distinct from the cited references either alone or in combination. Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection as to Claims 23-34.

Applicant has now made an earnest attempt in order to place this case in condition for allowance. For the reasons stated above, Applicant respectfully requests full allowance of the claims as amended. Please charge any additional fees or deficiencies in fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-0780/PHLY-24,910 of HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.

Respectfully submitted,
HOWISON & ARNOTT, L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicant

Gregory M. Howison
Registration No. 30,646

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GMH:jk

P.O. Box 741715
Dallas, Texas 75374-1715
Tel: 972-479-0462
Fax: 972-479-0464
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AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE
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